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OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH • Center for Community Health

Injury Research and Prevention Program

# Fireworks Safety

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If consumer fireworks are legal where you live and you decide to set them off on your own, be sure to follow these important safety tips:

- ◆ **Do not shoot guns in the air!**
- ◆ **Read and follow all warnings and instructions.**
- ◆ **A responsible adult should closely supervise all fireworks activities.**
- ◆ **Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks.**
- ◆ **Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks. Never point or throw fireworks at another person.**
- ◆ **Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves, and flammable materials.**
- ◆ **Light one item at a time, then move back quickly.**
- ◆ **Never try to re-light fireworks that have not fully functioned.**
- ◆ **Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them in metal or glass containers.**
- ◆ **Keep a bucket of water or a hose handy in case of a malfunction or fire.**

*Source: U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (<http://cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml02/02187.html>)*

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